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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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|----------------|--|-----------------|------------------|------|
| COUNTRY        | Korea  | REPORT NO.      | [REDACTED]       | 25X1 |
| SUBJECT        | Issuance of New Citizenship Certificates<br>in North Korea | DATE DISTR.     | 15 December 1953 |      |
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1. New temporary certificates were to be issued in North Korea by 1 September 1953, in lieu of the old temporary passes which were furnished those persons who had lost their citizenship certificates.<sup>1</sup> All persons who possessed citizenship certificates had to have them checked by their local police stations, and those lacking citizenship certificates or temporary passes had to submit a statement as to why they had none. This statement had to be witnessed by two persons who were acceptable by the local police station. An application for a new citizenship certificate was then filed, and, after a thorough investigation, new documentation was issued. All applications had to be submitted to a local authorized police station, through the local People's Committee.

25X1 25X12. [REDACTED] all persons in Sinch'on-gun, Hwanghae Province, over the age of 18, were to file an application for new citizenship certificates with the police authorities through their block leaders and ri People's Committees, before 5 September 1953. The Sinch'on-gun County Police Station was to issue the new certificates by 15 September 1953. New citizenship certificates had already been issued in South P'yongan Province. The front cover of the certificate was similar to the old one.

3. By 31 August 1953 all persons over the age of 17 residing north of the 38th parallel were to be issued new North Korean citizenship certificates. Those persons residing in the North Korea-controlled zone south of the 38th parallel were to

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be issued new certificates by 30 September. The North Korean authorities were compiling a list of such persons who were eligible for the new certificates, and asking for two pictures of each. These people were prohibited from traveling further than 12 miles from their residences.

4. On 25 September 1953 the North Korean government authorities were delaying the issue of new citizenship certificates throughout North Korea.<sup>2</sup> These certificates were to have been issued by the end of September. Approximately 90 percent of the eligible persons above the 38th parallel and 60-70 percent of the eligible persons below the parallel had their pictures taken for the new certificates before 25 September. It was rumored that the issue of the new certificates would not be completed until late October or early November.
5. By 30 September 1953 new citizenship certificates were to have been issued in Pyoksong-gun, Hwanghae Province, but the date had been moved up to mid-October 1953. A census was being taken by the police, with the assistance of the ri People's Committees. The new certificates were to be issued to all persons over the age of 17. All men between the ages of 18 and 45 were to be required to file a sworn statement agreeing to join the North Korean Army if called. The new citizenship certificates were to be issued only in areas below the 38th parallel. Old citizenship cards were to be retained above the 38th parallel, but they would have to be marked with a special chop.

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25X1 [redacted] Comment. A lack of photographers and the continuous shifting of the population caused the delay in the issuing of new citizenship certificates.

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